

# MEDICAL ASSISTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING: April 18, 2022, 6:00 pm, ZOOM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Vicky called the regular Spring 2022 meeting of the Medical Assisting Advisory Committee to order at 6:04 pm, April 18, 2022, via Zoom. Angela Orth chaired upon reaching section III, Approval of Minutes, at 6:12 pm.

## II. INTRODUCTIONS

### a) **In attendance:**

#### Industry:

Ginny Albright - Valley View Health Center

Dana Clayton - Ferguson Enterprises LLC

Tonya Fowler - PeaceHealth

Angela Orth, Chair - Child and Adolescent Clinic (Committee Chair)

#### Education:

Sara Al Bassam - LCC Faculty (MEDA courses)

Merry Bond - Associate Dean of Nursing & Allied Health/ Director of Nursing

Hanna Burleson, Longview Public Schools - RA Long / Mark Morris Teacher

Veronica De Jesus - LCC Employment Navigator

Kayla McSweeney - LCC Student

Bill Ofstun - Longview Public Schools - Director of Assessment, CTE & Technology Integration

Vicky Soladey - LCC Medical Assisting Program Director

Nicole Buffham - LCC Administrative Assistant (recorder)

### b) **Review and update Medical Assisting Advisory Committee Roster**

The committee reviewed the roster which was updated during the meeting.

Further updates may be emailed to Vicky and will be shared with Nicole to update the Advisory Committee Spreadsheet.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### a) **Review minutes of the October 18, 2021 meeting**

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion was seconded.

The motion was approved.

### b) **Review tonight's agenda and adjust as needed**

The agenda was reviewed and presented as shown. The committee noted that the K-12 portion has recently been implemented.

## IV. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**a. APPROVALS - None at this time**

Bill, LPS, noted approvals typically occur during the fall meeting, but it's helpful to have these as standing agenda items in case they're needed outside of the usual timeframe.

**i. K12 CTE CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATION**

None at this time.

**ii. COURSES AND CIP CODES**

None at this time.

**V. INDUSTRY UPDATES**

**a) Share what is going on out in the field**

Angela, Child and Adolescent Clinic - shared that post-vaccine requirement implementation, hiring, training, and recruiting practices have been modified. Many CNAs have been hired to help with rooming and patient prep. They are also considering doing some on-the-job training to perform registered medical assistant duties.

When hiring MAs, there are many applicants from across the US and this makes Angela feel hopeful and positive about the next phase in Medical Assisting.

Tonya, PeaceHealth - shared that there are many openings for MAs. There have been challenges filling the positions as a lack of quality applicants has been an issue. Many seasoned MAs were lost due to the COVID mandate and recent graduates do not want to receive the vaccine to meet that hiring requirement.

Ginny, Valley View Health Center - shared they have two student MAs and two openings for MAs at the clinic.

Outside of healthcare:

Dana, Ferguson Enterprises - shared they are still struggling to fill positions.

Hanna, LPS - shared that students have been participating in many labs since they have returned. Students are learning skills to prepare them and help determine their field of study, as well as discovering available programs.

Veronica, LCC - shared that many of the employers she works with are struggling with graduates not applying or the Industry isn't receiving enough applicants to fill positions. Recent graduates aren't applying due to the vaccine mandate.

Vicky, LCC - shared that the program has been struggling to find students to enter the program. Great efforts are being made to promote and market to increase enrollment.

**b) What can we do better for your healthcare experience?**

Angela, Child and Adolescent Clinic - Pediatrics has seen a major uptick in mental health crises, suicidal ideation, and eating disorders have skyrocketed in the last few years. She recommends students learn that assisting kids in getting help for mental health disorders, eating disorders, anxiety, and depression is important to help them learn and grow. These issues are widespread and a significant part of healthcare. It would be beneficial to add this as a focus in the curriculum.

Ginny, Valley View Health Center - Adults seen in the clinic are also experiencing mental health issues. Grief, depression, and anxiety have increased. Clients also have a fear of the unknown and there is frustration with the unpredictability of the type of appointment they might have (telehealth or in-person). She recommends patience and understanding in helping clients through this transition.

Bill, LPS - K-12 is struggling because students are “seeking the cracks and crawling in them”, rather than falling between the cracks. Keeping kids engaged is a challenge, so he celebrates the hands-on work that Hanna is doing to help the students reengage.

## **VI. Education (LCC and K12) UPDATES**

### **a. Labor Market (Spring)**

Vicky, LCC - Nothing noted other than decline.

### **b. Student Success/Performance (Fall/Spring)**

Vicky, LCC - Students from K-12 and LCC are starting to come back and are re-engaging. It is taking a bit longer with LCC.

### **c. K12 Updates**

Bill, LPS - A community Career Fair is being organized with the Kelso/Longview Chamber of Commerce. Finding a location was a challenge. This is planned for October 20, 2022, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Loowit and St. Helens rooms at the Event Center.

### **d. LCC Updates**

#### **i. Campus and program adjustments relating to the pandemic**

Vicky, LCC - Campus is open for the spring quarter. Masks are optional. COVID cleaning protocols have been maintained. When working on hands-on skills, masks are still required as students cannot maintain the 3-foot distancing required. Masks also provide best practice as students will be required to wear the masks when they begin working in clinical environments.

#### **ii. Current cohort**

Vicky, LCC - Currently there are nine students. Seven are new and two are returning students.

**iii. Preceptorships**

Vicky, LCC - Partners have been gracious and willing to accept our students for clinical placement. Students are required to complete 198 hours of clinical between July 5 and August 24, 2022.

Students have completed cover letters and resumes. These will be shared with partners soon.

**iv. Annual Report**

Vicky, LCC - The annual report was submitted on February 17, 2022. The highlight was that all graduates from August 2021 were employed within 3 months of completing the program. There was a decline in the passage of the national exam, but that may be related to students working online during COVID. With students returning to face-to-face classes, we may see those numbers turn around.

**v. Accreditation update**

Vicky, LCC - Site study citations were submitted on January 29, 2022. Results are expected to be returned in May. The Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) approved new standards and guidelines effective April 4, 2022. Implementation is expected for Fall 2022. Core curriculum was revised. Previously, the requirement was proof of 100 cognitive objectives, 73 psychomotor competencies, and 22 affective competencies. The new requirements are 87 cognitive, 63 psychomotor, and 8 affective competencies.

**vi. Applications for Fall 2022-2023 Cohort**

Vicky, LCC - The application deadline was extended from April 1, 2022, to May 2, 2022. There are 11 applicants and one returning student so far. If there are still seats available and students have met the requirements, we will still accept students into the program through August for the fall cohort.

**vii. Any Recommendations for students, faculty, or program**

Veronica, LCC - Please direct students interested in finding employment to Career Services. Class visits are also an option and instructors are encouraged to reach out. Resumes, cover letters, interviewing skills, and resources students might need can be covered in 5 to 10 minutes of class time.

Tonya, PeaceHealth - High school and LCC students should reach out to facilities for job shadowing opportunities.

Hanna, LPS - Students were unable to job shadow at the beginning of the school year, but students were able to do a flipped internship where students were able to Zoom with a physician assistant regarding a heart murmur. Students learned a great deal and had fun in the process.

Vicky, LCC - Please reach out if anyone knows of an MA interested in teaching clinical. This may be a future opportunity and is important for the continuity of the program.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**IX. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Bill, LPS - Upcoming event:

Cowlitz County Career Exploration

October 20, 2022, 9am-4pm

Loowit and St. Helens rooms, Cowlitz County Event Center

Veronica, LCC - Upcoming event:

LCC Career and Networking Fair

June 1, 2022, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Lower Columbia College Student Center

Employers who would like to participate in the LCC Job Fair may register via the following link:

[lowercolumbia-csm.symplicity.com/events/careerfair2022](https://lowercolumbia-csm.symplicity.com/events/careerfair2022)

To discuss job postings through the LCC Career Center, please reach out to:

Veronica De Jesus

[vdejesus@lowercolumbia.edu](mailto:vdejesus@lowercolumbia.edu)

Phone: 360.442.2337, Mon-Thur 9 am to 4 pm

**X. NEXT MEETING (DATE/TIME/PLACE):**

October 17, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

A Doodle Poll will be sent out closer to the meeting date to determine whether the meeting should be in-person or via Zoom.

**XI. RESOURCES**

- a. [ADVISORY COMMITTEE HANDBOOK](#)

- b. [LCC: Professional-Technical Advisory Committees Meeting Minutes](#)
- c. [The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act, Public Law 105-332](#)
- d. [College Advisory Committee Procedures](#)
- e. [K12 CTE Advisory Committee Procedures](#)
  
- f. **Terms:**
  - i. **V-Code:** Vocational (V) Code. This is tied to the certification code and dictates the K12 courses that a teacher is certified to teach. The teachers' education or industry experience is reviewed to determine the V-codes for certification.
  
  - ii. **CIP Code:** Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code. A federally accepted course and program code that identifies courses taught throughout the United States, this includes CTE courses. CIP codes are aligned to V-codes that clarify which courses the teacher has been certified to teach in K12. CIP codes are also used for reporting purposes from the district to OSPI and college to the SBCTC.

**XII. Meeting Adjourned: 6:58 pm**

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